

# Credit by Exam Frequently Asked Questions for High School Credit Courses 2015-2016

## **What is Credit by Exam?**

Credit by Exam/Exam for Acceleration provides an opportunity to earn grade level or course credit in which no prior formal instruction was completed. Credit by Exam is designed for a *very* small percentage of students who have an academic and emotional need to advance a course. Credit by Exam is not designed for grade level recovery from being retained in a previous grade level.

## **CBEs and End of Course Exams**

TEA recently instituted a new policy for CBE without prior instruction exams. Students can no longer gain credit for Algebra 1, Biology, English 1, English 2, or United States History via Credit by Exam without prior instruction using tests provided through the University of Texas or Texas Tech.

## **Can my student attempt to accelerate through several courses at one time?**

Students must earn credit for one course as a prerequisite to attempt Credit by Exam for the next course. For example, a student must earn credit for Spanish I either by CBE or course completion before he/she can attempt the CBE for Spanish II.

## **What are the eligibility requirements for a student to register for Credit by Exam?**

Students must be enrolled in a Klein ISD school and have not taken the course in which they are attempting acceleration.

## **What are the test dates and registration deadlines for 2014-2015?**

The registration deadline for the September 29, 2015 administration is **August 31, 2015**.

The registration deadline for the November 17, 2015 administration is **October 2, 2015**.

The registration deadline for the February 23, 2106 administration is **January 8, 2016**.

The registration deadline for the April 26, 2016 administration is **March 23, 2016**.

Applications must be submitted to your counselor by the end of the school day on the date of the application deadline.

## **Are the tests administered on paper or online?**

The University of Texas offers many CBE exams in both paper and online format. Dependent upon available technology, facility resources, and availability of an online version, Klein ISD will administer CBE exams online to students attempting a high school credit course.

## **What is the testing site location, address, and arrival time?**

Klein ISD offers various testing locations. Testing sites will be based on student's home campus and campus availability. Students should arrive at the testing location 15 minutes prior to the start time.

## **What are the exceptions for an excused absence from testing?**

It is imperative that you notify your campus counselor as soon as possible if you believe you have an excused absence from testing. If a student does not have an excused absence from testing, the student will not be allowed to take CBE without prior instruction for the remainder of the school year.

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## **We will be out of town on the testing dates listed. Can my child take the test on a different day?**

Klein ISD will strictly adhere to the scheduled testing dates. If students are unable to test on these dates, parents may purchase the tests directly from the University of Texas and hire a test administrator to proctor the exams to the student. Testing locations listed below:

The Assessment Center at Lone Star College University Park. Contact information 281-401-5314 for times and fees.

Lone Star College Tomball. Contact information 832-559-4245 for times and fees.

Students should pick up a University of Texas individual registration form from their school counselor, fill out the form completely and submit to the proctor located at Lone Star College for approval. Once approved by Lone Star, the student will return the form to the school counselor for approval (approval means the counselor signature is in the appropriate location on the UT registration form), who will then verify its completion and return to the student. The student may then fax the registration form to the University of Texas.

## **Unacceptable Testing Sites & Proctors**

The following are unacceptable testing sites: municipal libraries tutoring centers, learning centers, residential homes, churches.

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The following are unacceptable proctors: tutors, uncertified teachers and other school personnel, instructors, professors, family members, friends or others with a personal connection to the student.

## **How can my child study or prepare for the CBE exams?**

Review materials may be found at: <http://www.utexas.edu/ce/k16/cbe-ea/study-guides/9-12>.

Obtaining student textbooks referenced in the study materials is the sole responsibility of the parent.

## **What to bring to testing?**

Refer to the study guide online at <http://www.utexas.edu/ce/k16/cbe-ea/study-guides/9-12> for additional materials needed.

All students taking a foreign language exam are provided headphones for the listening and speaking component of testing.

Students should bring a graphing calculators for mathematics exams when allowed. Review the University of Texas study guide website for more information. [University of Texas Study Guides: Grades K-8 and Grades 9-12](#)

## **What is the Credit by Exam score requirements to be awarded course credit?**

High school students must take an exam for each semester of an academic course they wish to skip and earn 80 percent or above on both exams to receive credit for the full year.

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Legislation requires that if students successfully earn credit by CBE, the student's CBE score must appear on the student's transcript; however, no grade points are awarded for grades earned through CBE; therefore, scores will have no impact on calculations of GPA and class rank.

### **If my student does not score the minimum 80%, will the score be recorded on the student transcript?**

Scores below 80% will not be recorded on the student's permanent transcript.

### **If my student does not score the minimum 80%, can they retake the exam?**

Retesting is not available.

### **After my child has taken the CBE exam can I review the exam questions for further study?**

The Klein ISD will not allow the release of any secure CBE assessments.

### **When will we receive the CBE results?**

Counselors will notify parents and/or students of test results approximately 4-6 weeks after testing. Hard copies via US Mail will only be provided on request.

### **Are there provisions for students who are homeless or in substitute care?**

Yes, only students classified homeless or in substitute care who transfer to the district after the start of the school year shall be provided an opportunity to be administered credit by exam at any point during the school year. Credit shall be awarded proportionately to a student who successfully completed only one semester of a two-semester course.

### **Advanced Placement (AP) and College-Level Examination Program (CLEP) testing.**

If I take an AP exam or CLEP Exam instead of the UT exam to earn credit by exam, how will the scores be applied to my transcript?

- College Board Advanced Placement exam. Passing score 3 or higher. Score conversion to grade on transcript is as follows:
  - AP Score 3 = grade 85
  - AP Score 4 = grade 90
  - AP Score 5 = grade 95
  
- CLEP Exam. Passing score of 50 or higher. Score conversion to grade on transcript is as follows:
  - CLEP Score 50 = grade 85
  - CLEP Score 60 = grade 90
  - CLEP Score 70 = grade 95
  - CLEP Score 80 = grade 100

Visit <https://apstudent.collegeboard.org/home> and your campus counselor for more information regarding AP and CLEP testing.